

THE RIO NEWS.

PUBLISHED ON THE 5th, 15th AND 24th OF EVERY MONTH.

VOL. IX.

RIO DE JANEIRO, MARCH 5TH, 1882

NUMBER 7

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DOM PEDRO II.—Through Express: Upward, leaves
Rio at 5 a. m.; arriving at Barra Junction at 7:45 a. m., Entre
Rios (central line) 10:11 a. m., Barbacena 12:45 p. m., Porto
Novo (branch from Entre Rios) 12 m., Cachoeira (S. Paulo
branch) 1:15 a. m., São Paulo (Nor. S. P. & Rio R.R.) 6 p. m.
Downward: leaves São Paulo 6 p. m., Barbacena 8:45 a. m.,
Porto Novo 12:15 p. m.; arriving at Barra 4:11 and Rio 7:12
p. m. Connects with Valença line at Desengano; Rio
das Flores line at Commercio; União Mineira line at Ser-
rauzeste Oeste de Minas (S. João d'El-Rey) line at São
Leopoldo line at Porto Novo; Renauld e Areas line at
Santana; and S. Paulo and Rio de Janeiro line at Cachoeira.
Limited Express: Upward, leaves Rio 7:13 a. m. arriving
at Barra 10:26 a. m., Rio Novo (central line) 7:07, Cachoeira
(S. Paulo branch) 7:28 p. m. Downward, leaves Cachoeira 6:48
a. m., Rio Novo 5:50 a. m., arriving at Barra 12:42 and 1:57 p. m.,
Rio 8:45 p. m. Stops at all stations. Connects with Santa
Cruz branch at Sapopemba, and Maucoas branch at Belém.
Mixed Trains: Leave Rio at 10:00 a. m., 12:12 and 4:10 p. m.,
arrive, from Belém 7:15 a. m., from Barra 8:45 a. m., from
Entre Rios (leaving 6:07 a. m.) at 12:28 p. m.
Suburban Trains.—Passenger trains leave at 5:00, 6:30,
7:40, 8:40 and 10:22 a. m., and 12:00, 2:15, 3:30, 4:30, 5:50, 7:30,
8:30 and 10:00 p. m., all stopping at Cascadura except the 10
p. m. train, which runs to Sapopemba. Returning, the trains
leave Sapopemba at 3:30 and Cascadura at 3:50, 6:10, 7:40,
8:40, 10, and 11:35 a. m., and 2:10, 3:40, 4:30, 5:30, 7, 8:30 and
9:40 p. m.
CANTAGALLO R.—Leaves Niterói (Santa Anna
per trainway from Cantagallo) 6:25 and Macaré 5:45 p. m.
Return train leaves Macaré 6:30, Condado 7:30 and Nova
Friburgo 11:10 a. m., arriving at Niterói 4:35 p. m. A ferry
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THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED TRIMONTHLY

on the eve of departure of the American packet, the French packet of the 15th, and Royal Mail packet of the 24th. of the month.

A. J. LAMOUREUX, Editor and Proprietor.

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SINGLE COPIES: 600 rebs. for sale at the office of publication, or at the English Book Store, No. 67 Rua do Ouvidor.

All subscriptions should run with the calendar year. Back numbers supplied at this office from April 1st, 1879.

Subscriptions and advertisements received at the

EDITORIAL ROOMS:—79, Rua Sete de Setembro.

CITY TELEPHONE ADDRESS:—No. 112.

RIO DE JANEIRO, MARCH 5TH, 1882.

Those who have felt just a little encouragement from ex-Premier Saraiva's condemnation of lotteries, and from the sharp criticisms of the provincial press, will be pleased to note that the institution seems to be thriving under such mild opposition. The second grand Ypiranga lottery is now before the public, *with no hanks*, and the first drawing of the new system of the province of Rio de Janeiro is announced. All the small fry are as lively as ever, and seem to be doing a good business. From every appearance the evil is growing stronger from day to day, and is steadily absorbing the available capital of the country. Notwithstanding the stringency which has lately been felt in the money market, and the losses and distress growing out of the late inundations and suspension of business, the lotteries are still increasing in number and in the means employed to tempt investments. The greater the distress, the greater their activity. It is useless to argue the case any further, for the government is both indifferent to their influence and is a partner in the gains. There is no public sentiment to put down the evil, and there is a sufficient mania for the risks to keep them running. Those of our foreign readers who have investments in this country, or are designing to invest, will do well to bear this matter in mind, for it has much to do with the poverty now existing here and with the difficulties in collecting accounts; it is a potent demoralizing influence in every community throughout the whole empire. We simply ask our readers to note the enormous number of these drawings already authorized by the general and provincial governments, and the steady increase in their number and attractions. We also ask them to note the interest which the government has in these lotteries, and the great benefits which the church draws from them. And then let them note how many business houses—among them many of the most prominent—are regular agents or dealers in tickets. Then there are the lottery societies in every rank and class of life, and the general habit among business men and their employees of buying tickets. We have known young men who spent a large part of their salaries every month in these speculations. Out of the practice has sprung every species of crime and immorality, and they may be found in the highest classes of society as well as the lowest. It has undermined and perverted all good business habits, and has destroyed that fine sense of honor and honesty upon which all noble character must rest. We note these facts simply that our readers may know just how this matter stands. We do not believe that the evil will be suppressed; but we propose

that those who suffer through it shall do so with their eyes open to its fatal development.

Thus far this season more rain has fallen throughout this part of Brazil than for many years past. It has been like the seasons of many years ago, when the summers were one long rainy spell. For several years past, however, there has been little rain during the summer, so little at times that serious inconvenience was felt in this city through the scarcity of water. This season, on the contrary, has been a rainy one to a marked degree. It began in December, and with but brief intervals it has rained ever since. As long as these rains fell regularly and moderately, the result was essentially beneficial, although the coffee planters complained somewhat of the injury done to the blossoms. In the cities, however, the rains have kept the streets and sewers clean, and there has been thus far a marked absence of fevers. On the night of the 21st ult., however, a heavy storm of rain visited this coast and continued for several days, resulting in damages which have never before been experienced in Brazil. Almost every railway in the provinces of Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo and Minas were compelled to suspend traffic through landslides and the washing away of the road beds. Plantations in the bottom lands were inundated, sugar mills along the streams were invaded by water from overflows, bridges were swept away, villages like Macahé, Paraty and others, were inundated to the great distress and loss of their inhabitants, and in this city extensive damage was occasioned by the inundation of S. Christoval and other suburban districts and by many destructive landslides on the steep hill sides where are located many of the most valuable and desirable private residences. All these however were trifling compared with the losses and embarrassments caused by the interruption of traffic on the Dom Pedro and São Paulo railways. On the former the country between Belém and Sumidouro was extensively inundated and the road bed was not only submerged, but in places was wholly swept away. Above Belém numerous heavy landslides occurred all the way up to Palmira, besides occasional landslides and washings along the central line from the Barra to its terminus at Carandahy. These damages have been so extensive and are of so heavy a character that it will be impossible to reopen the line to freight traffic before the end of the month, although provisional arrangements for the transport of passengers and mails will be made much earlier, possibly within the next few days. It is certain that the present efficient director of the line, Dr. Penna, will do all that can be done, or rather, all that lies in his power, to remove obstacles and reopen the line. The serious character of this disaster will be seen in the fact that for the last ten days only six bags of coffee have been received in this city, and the stock on hand was practically exhausted long ago. In São Paulo the existence of heavy landslides on the 3rd plane of the São Paulo railway, above Santos, also caused a serious interruption to communication and to business. Thanks to the energetic management of that line, the obstacles have been removed and the line has again been opened to traffic. On the other roads the interruptions have been no less serious, although the disastrous consequences have been less general than on the two trunk lines before mentioned. We may easily say that so general and so disastrous an interruption to railway traffic has never before been known in Brazil, and even then we shall convey only the most meagre idea of the disaster. The dependence of the country on one productive

industry has served to make this interruption all the more serious, because the market is so dependent upon the two main lines of communication with the interior producing districts. Were there a greater diversity of production the results of such an interruption would not be so serious, because they would be less general. As it is, everything must await resumption of traffic, and in this port especially the delay will cause great losses in business. Many steamers will leave without freights because there is no coffee in the market, and there will be a general restriction in business because of this cessation of coffee shipments. It is to be hoped, however, that the efforts now making will speedily reopen traffic, even at an earlier date than anticipated.

There is a tendency, in our opinion, to attach too great a blame upon the government for the disasters which the recent heavy rains have caused along the Dom Pedro II railway. Whatever errors there may have been either in construction or in management, these sweeping strictures are clearly unjust. Such rains as visited this part of Brazil from the 21st to the 24th of last month, which were afterwards followed by a steady downpour, have never before been experienced here since the construction of that line, and they may not come again for years. It is easy enough to say that provisions should have been made for all this, but who ever anticipates such an exceptional occurrence as an earthquake, a tornado, or a flood of rain. With now and then a brief obstruction, such as is likely to happen to any road in any country, the Dom Pedro II line has been open to continuous traffic for many years. The road is constructed through an exceptionally difficult region, as is also the São Paulo line, and mishaps must therefore be expected from time to time. Elsewhere it may be the falling or washing away of a bridge, or the blocking of a whole line by heavy falls of snow, as frequently occurs in the United States and Canada. The simple fact is that a phenomenal rain storm has visited this part of Brazil, and the two great trunk lines connecting the interior with the seaboard have suffered severe and extensive damage. As far as we can learn everything is being done to repair the disaster and to reopen communication, and in such an effort both the government and the São Paulo company are entitled to general sympathy and support. Were the disaster such that it could have been anticipated and prevented, then the public might have good cause for holding them responsible; but in this case no such prevision was possible. It should be remembered that the railways themselves have suffered and will yet suffer very heavy losses through these inundations and landslides. In fact, the whole business of this section of Brazil is feeling the interruption most severely. In the general loss, against which no one was provided, it is idle to fix blame upon any one. In the opinion of some there was insufficient protection against floods on the low lands this side of Belém, but as the outlets have thus far been sufficient for all emergencies there could have been no call for further precautions. Others believe that the cuttings in the mountains were too near the perpendicular for safety, but it should be remembered that these cuttings have served well for many years, and that they have never before been tested so severely. And there are even some who affect to blame the government because the trade of this port has been left dependent upon one road alone, forgetting that under normal conditions and good management the Dom Pedro II line could carry twice its present traffic, and that the government is very poorly prepared for undertaking another so expensive a road. The Cantagallo

line might be completed through to a connection with the Leopoldina road, and the Petropolis line to Porto Novo, but it should then be remembered that the same rains which might interrupt traffic on the first would surely extend to the other two. There is no possible way of securing a direct railway communication with the interior except by scaling the Serra do Mar, and that of itself must necessarily involve some risk. If there is a sincere determination to make provisions against a future disaster to business of this character, we see no better way to do it than to alter the conditions of business itself. Under present conditions the almost exclusive trade of this port is dependent upon one product, coffee; and the trade of that article is largely dependent upon its regular daily supply from the interior. To employ a homely phrase: Brazil has put all her eggs into one basket. We now see the effect of an interruption in the regular supply of this one product; and, if so great a loss can arise from a temporary suspension in the supply, what would it be were there a total failure in the crop? If provisions are to be taken, the widening of railway cuttings, the strengthening of embankments and the improvement of lowland drainage, is but their most insignificant part. Even the building of new lines would be insufficient. There must be a greater diversity of production, and less dependence upon one product. There must be greater liberality in the laws regulating industry and commerce, so that people may not be so helpless in emergencies of this character. And then, there must be some step taken for the material improvement of the laboring classes, so that temporary disaster may not cause them so immediate and serious distress. There can be no adequate preparation against these mishaps which does not include these vital reforms in the industrial and commercial status of the country.

In discussing a statement that placards are posted at all the crossroads in Ireland advising the people not to emigrate to the Argentine Republic, the Buenos Aires *Standard* remarks: "Let this country once but be known, with its splendid resources, and they will need throughout Great Britain and Ireland something more than placards on the highways cautioning the people against coming out to the Plate." But is that true? If we mistake not, there is no lack of knowledge about the "splendid resources" either of the Argentine Republic, or Uruguay, or Brazil, or even of Mexico; but still the tide of emigration to these countries is but a feeble one as yet, and promises but little more for the future. The emigrating classes of Europe want something more than "splendid resources," and until the Portuguese and Spanish American states recognize this fact they will get but a small part of this great stream of European emigration. First and above all, they want civil liberty, and this as yet is only found in the Anglo-Saxon colonies. With all their boast of republican institutions, and with all their assumption of toleration and personal rights, there is but a semblance of civil liberty in all these South American states. Many of the commonest privileges of a citizen in the United States, and Canada, and Australia, are here considered dangerous, and are repressed as rigorously as though it were Spain herself who had the direction of affairs. Here some of the most trivial privileges of the individual are kept within official supervision, and even the petty details of business and industry are so directed and restricted by government that there is not a shadow of choice or discretion left to the citizen. It should be remembered that the knowledge of these matters travels side by side with that of the "splendid resources," and in

choosing his new home the emigrant is bound to take them all into consideration. As long as the public cemeteries of Brazil are closed to him and civil and political rights are withheld because of his alien birth and his religious belief, as long as there is neither security for life nor property in the republics of the River Plate, these "splendid resources" will make but little impression. He will very likely count the risks first, and the gains afterwards. The murder of English settlers in both the Argentine Republic and Uruguay, the recitals of which appear so frequently in both the *Herald* and *Standard*, and the outrageous treatment and official robbery of Professor Crevan's scientific exploring party in the province of Jujuy, are little calculated to afford confidence in these pseudo-republics. There has been no lack of advertising all these countries in this effort to obtain emigrants; in fact the outside world knows more to their advantage than those residing within their boundaries. We do not believe that one of them has suffered a particle through popular ignorance of their material resources and advantages. With the exception of Australia, there are no countries in the world better advertised than Brazil and the Argentine Republic—and there are precious few countries more over-rated. The simple fact is that the world has found out that neither country will afford a living without work, and that for the poor man who would own a little parcel of ground and work it according to his own sweet pleasure there are countries which offer far better inducements. What one man can do with capital and influence is no gauge for the poor emigrant. He simply wants an opportunity to earn something, to save something, and be let alone. In Brazil he can not have it; in Uruguay he can not have it. Now what better can he do in the Argentine Republic? In Brazil there is no desire for free and unrestricted immigration; the country wants contract laborers to take the places of slaves. Fortunately for the Argentine Republic there is no incubus of slavery in the way of the free laborer, but even then what inducements are offered to him? What has he to look forward to when all the finest lands are being sold by the square league to speculators? And even when he finds the opportunity for acquiring a small farm, what civil and political rights are accorded to him to make him feel that he is no longer an alien, but in reality a citizen? In the United States this difference between the native and foreigner is rarely ever seen. Once there was an attempt to found a political party on the basis of opposition to foreign immigration, but it failed most ignominiously. A foreigner settles down in a community, and at once becomes a part of it. The machinery of government is so simple and so admirably divided, that he finds no difficulty whatever in finding his place; and in determining what his relations to it must be. He finds that all such matters as schools, and roads, and petty breaches of the peace or rights of property, are simply matters of local control under the provisions of the general law. The question of rights and privileges do not disturb him in the least. He settles where he pleases, chooses his work, buys and sells at will, and invests his savings according to his own judgment. Down here it is all different; and the emigrant knows it. When these South American states, which have many and substantial resources, see fit to remove all these childish disabilities and suppress all these foolish prejudices, the stream of emigration will set this way of itself. There will be no need of agencies and glowing publications to attract the emigrant; there will be no need of subsidies and special legislation.

DEPUTY Afonso Celso Junior, after formal notification, electrified the country on the 28th ult. by "defining his position." In view of the fact that this gentleman is very youthful, having but a short time since graduated from a law school, and having a legislative experience covering a period of a very few weeks, it would seem that his "position" could very easily be defined—but such was not the case. This young man has arrived at the serious conclusion that he is a republican—not a bloody red republican of the French revolutionary stamp, but an "opportunist republican." Just what kind of a republican this is it is very hard to define, but from the notable examples furnished by Consul-general Salvador de Mendonça and Senator Lafayette, we should say that it is republicanism until there is a good opportunity to become an office-holder and a monarchist. That is where the "opportunism" seems to lie. Fortunately, it is not at all dangerous; on the contrary it gives one a pleasant notoriety and unbounded opportunities for making speeches. And that's another peculiar phrase of the "opportunism." We trust that our foreign readers will not be frightened because of this new accession to republican theories in Brazil. There will be no bloodshed growing out of it; and no houses will be burned. The bloodiest republicans in all Brazil are Lopes Trovão and Alberto de Carvalho, and both of them are as harmless as young storks. They have a passion for saying grandiloquent things, and the public loves to indulge them. It is an amusement for both parties. In these harmless manifestations of political heterodoxy, one hears all that has ever been said, from the philosophy of Plato to the ravings of Rochefort. Grand truths are mouthed with the flippancy of a drawing-room compliment, and they sink quite as deep. And now Mr. Celso Junior has joined the "opportunists," and we have one more talker. It is a genuine pity that the grand idea of republicanism is to be prostituted to such trivial purposes. Could we but call them "opportunists," and nothing more, we should be quite content; but to call them "republicans"—it is little less than profanity! A cause which has engaged the profoundest thought and the noblest men since the world began should not be made the instrument of youthful vanity or venal plotting. Around this cause are grouped the noblest utterances of all languages, and for it heroic men have given up home, country, life. Out of it has sprung the very life and thought of our civilization, the dearest liberties of men, the grandest development of nations. Republicanism is not a skittle-ground for school-boys; it is the food and incentive of thoughtful, unselfish men. It is not the spring-board for vaulting politicians; it is the aspiration of statesmen and patriots. There is no law to prevent any man from wearing the title of "republican," just as it has been worn by communists and socialists, and by all the so-called republics of South America to-day, even as there is no law against stealing the livery of the church to serve the devil; but it would be far better both for republicanism and for the agitators themselves were they a little more modest in their pretensions. Being a republican, is something of which our aspiring young deputy has as yet only a very feeble conception, and it will not take a very great effort on his part to achieve a most sublime absurdity in the role which he is seeking to play.

Among the many industrial enterprises now seeking government aid and protection is one which must necessarily command general attention and unbounded admiration. The policy of the government being

to exercise a paternal control over all species of industry and to assume the initiative in all undertakings for the development of the country, it naturally follows that every project must first come to the fountain head of power both for direction and aid. And so Messrs. Schmidt & Lima, filled with a patriotic desire to see the campos of Brazil turned into wealth-producing sheep-pastures, have applied to the minister of agriculture for a sheep-raising privilege, and with it a subsidy or guarantee of interest. With rare discrimination and judgment, and with the statistical testimony of Professor Chyot to back them, they have arrived at the final conclusion that this industry is "the most lucrative" in the world. Therefore, they modestly petition for a subvention, or a guarantee of interest on the capital invested. The reason for this is simply to follow well-established precedents, as it is stated that England, Hungary, the United States and Buenos Aires have all "expended fabulous sums with the introduction and raising of sheep." We were not aware of that circumstance before, and the announcement will probably surprise a great many others; but as the government is supposed to be both amiable and ignorant, and at the same time exceedingly anxious to pay enterprising men liberally for developing industries and making money, the statement is made unhesitatingly and in good round terms. It's wonderful how much England and the United States have done in such matters! Hungary is drawn in for the first time, and is therefore experiencing a new sensation; but the other two have been used as stool-pigeons for so long a time that they have become quite accustomed to it. Some of these days we shall be told that the British government has been specially engaged in raising bull-dogs, and the United States in raising game-cocks—that is, providing some one wants to introduce those attractive industries into Brazil. However, that is little pertinent to sheep-raising. We are informed by these enthusiastic gentlemen, 1st, that sheep-raising is "the most lucrative industry in the world;" 2nd, that "our climate favors it admirably," that "the vastness of our campos will raise us to the place of the first producers of the world," that "we have sheep in every parish in the empire," and that "we count upon the sympathy of the sheep-raisers;" and 3rd, that "this is the only font of production which can speedily aid us." The logical result of these conclusions is that "the intervention of the state, however, is not only desired, but is urgent, imperative." There must be no delay nor hesitation; the government is urged to come at once to the aid of this "most lucrative" industry. Should there have been some mistake about the other countries, that can be overlooked. What is now needed, and most urgently needed, is a guarantee or a subsidy. And the demand is thoroughly in accordance with the policy and precedents established by the government, and also entirely in harmony with the Associação Industrial and Council of State. If a guarantee is to be given to a coffee mill, or a sugar mill, or a railway, or a steamship line, or a fishing enterprise, why should not a sheep-raising industry be aided also? Just imagine the campos of interior Minas covered with sheep! And then imagine the sheep covered with *carapazas*! It is enough to make one's heart leap with joy. Even a treasury cash box would laugh. It's a grand scheme. We are not at all clear as to where Messrs. Schmidt & Lima's interest lies; but it must lie somewhere, for the sheep are to be scattered over all Brazil. Should the government aid these gentlemen in establishing and carrying on this "most lucrative" industry, great results must surely follow. The country will literally roll in

wool and mutton. No man will then be able to say that he suffers from the need of a woolen nister; and no lady will grieve for a lamb's wool muffler. Children will be reared on mutton chops, and invalids will have one continual feast of mutton broth. A prosperous country will resound with the plaintive bleating of sheep, and the national debt will be liquidated in mutton tallow. Some of the most beautiful scenes in our literature are drawn from pastoral life; green meadows and gently undulating hills, pebbly streams, a flock of soft-eyed sheep, a watchful dog, and a young shepherd and shepherdess courting in the foreground. It makes one's heart warm to think of it. If the government does not at once secure the exhibition another opportunity may never come.

The real work of the General Assembly—if the speeches upon the throne address may be considered as work—began during the past week. Contrary to all expectation the government placed a gag upon the usual flow of eloquence in this discussion and announced its close on Friday, which was ultimately postponed because of a lack of quorum. The chief characteristic of this discussion as far as it was permitted to go, was the almost unanimous criticism and denunciation of the present cabinet. The conservatives, of course, were unsparing, and they had good material to use. And among the liberals, even among the supporters of the government, there was a marked absence of confidence and praise, and a great deal of damaging criticism. Brazil probably never had so weak and friendless a ministry as she now has. No one is able to defend it, or to give it unconditional support. It is generally asserted that it can exist but a very short time longer; even reports of its breaking up are now on the street. As to the chief of this phenomenal cabinet, Senator Martinho Campos, he has shown weakness, ignorance and vacillation at every turn. No one believes in him; no one trusts in him. In this city he has the support of one petty subsidized leader—and that is all. The prominent sheets of his own party refuse to support him; and the whole country is laughing at his administration as a broad farce. The spirit of his administration, or rather the sentiments which govern the prime minister himself, may best be illustrated by his speech before the Chamber on the 28th ult. in response to his critics. He asserted, as was naturally expected, that he believed in a mixed and representative monarchy, as it gives better guarantees of liberty than a pure democracy. On the question of slavery he asserted that the liberal party had never been in favor of the traffic; that the abolition movement is carried on by a very few sincere philanthropists and by many agitators and malevolent creatures who had insulted and offended him gratuitously. "The law of 1871," said he, "has neither augmented nor diminished the humanitarian movement, nor improved the treatment of slaves in Brazil because the slaves in Brazil have been treated as in no other country of the world." (And this is literally true, as in no country has there been more unfeeling cruelty and bad treatment!) In reply to an assertion that he as the liberal chief should pay some attention to public opinion, he asked, "Where is this public opinion? In the majority of parliament? Is it the majority of the nation, as some noble deputies say? But how is one to know what this majority of the nation is? Is it by means of a half dozen young or old maniacs who write in the journals? Is this what makes public opinion?" As to abolition, he asked what could be done. The law of 1871 has been made, and that is the last step. He declared the ownership of

slave to be the same as the ownership of a house—and to take them away is in the same sense robbery. This false philanthropy has been the cause of fatal results every day: breaches of order on the plantations and losses of life both among planters and slaves. In the transformation of labor what can the government do? It does not plant; it can do nothing. If the planters want free laborers, then let them be procured. He asserted that he knew of no obstacles to immigration, and that slavery was not such an obstacle, as free laborers showed no repugnance to working with slaves. The abolitionists who denounce the interprovincial slave traffic are nearly all of the provinces exporting slaves. He asserted that he was what the abolitionists were pleased to call an "escravatista;" and said that he had "the same enthusiasm for slavery that the century has in which I was born and in which I live." On the question of municipal reform, which had been brought up from year to year, he saw no necessity for legislation. He had been a country alderman for twenty years and had all the attributes and authority he wanted. He had no political reforms to propose. On the question of withdrawing paper money, nothing could now be done because the money market was not in a favorable condition. As to the means for consolidating the floating debt, he had nothing to propose; he did not know what measures would be adopted. The means which should seem most convenient and most advantageous to the state would be adopted.

And this is the present prime minister of Brazil. He proposes nothing, sees nothing, knows nothing.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

From the Buenos Aires Herald, February 14.

—Through the date for the opening of the exhibition has been changed by the committee to the 1st of March, it is not probable that it can be ready before the middle of that month at earliest.

—The burning of wool has become a serious question and the insurance companies in Europe have telegraphed inquiries to their agents. This season the *Delambre*, *Thales*, *Supho*, *Vanguard* and *Polony* have been on fire. Whether the cause arises from chemicals used in washing sheep or from dirt we do not know. Probably it arises from wool getting wet in the lighters.

—Intelligence has been received from Rio IV, Córdoba, stating that serious losses have been caused by the prolonged drought in that district, the river having dwindled down almost to nothing, and vegetables or fruit not to be had except at famine prices. However the latest news is that heavy rain was falling, so better times may be looked for.

—The minister of justice visited recently the house of correction and was amazed to find the majority of the prisoners half naked, many without even a shirt. He at once requested the municipality to look into the matter, and the municipality in its turn had to apply to the minister of the interior as it had no funds for clothing prisoners. Thus the matter stands, but it is to be hoped that something will be done before the cold weather sets in.

—The population of the capital of the republic was, in 1881, according to Dr. Coni, 289,925, of whom 147,612 were Argentines and 142,313 foreigners. (The children of foreigners born in this country are, of course, reckoned as Argentines). The Argentines are made up as follows: children under 12 years of age, 63,764; from 12 to 16, 14,750; women from 16 to 100, 45,000; men from 16 to 110, 24,098. Of the foreigners, it is estimated that 97,000 are adult males.

—The *Polony* was ready to sail to-day (February 9) having all her cargo, consisting of 1,423 bales wool, 5,707 salted hides and 1,404 bags linseed, on board, when a fire broke out in the fore-hold No. 2, loaded with wool and linseed. Directly the necessary orders were given, the hatches closed and water pumped in through the decks. At 5 p.m. she had about 12 feet water in the hold. The *Stella* re, turned at 1.30 with Messrs. Norton and Bowdell and the pilot Gels on board, also three pumps, and towing various lighters. At 4.15 p.m. the fire had not broken out through the deck. There is no fear that the steamer will be lost, but it is probable that she will have to discharge.

—The *Polony* was not injured by fire. About 650 bales were burned, and a few salted hides will need repacking. She will leave for Antwerp direct on the 16th.

PROVINCIAL NOTES

—Serious damages by the rains are reported from Espírito Santo.

—The January receipts of the provincial post-office of Pernambuco amounted to 11,794\$250.

—The provincial assembly of Maranhão was opened on the 14th ult., with an attendance of nine deputies.

—The January receipts of the Porto Alegre custom house amounted to 136,886\$041, a decrease of 7,459\$503 from the December receipts.

—The city of Macahé was flooded by the recent inundations, the people leaving the place, or taking refuge in the upper parts of the houses. Many buildings have fallen.

—A landslide in the Serra do Boqueirão, in the eastern part of the province of Rio de Janeiro, on the 21st ult., destroyed a house and all its occupants—twelve persons in all.

—The delivery of tickets for the second Ypiranga lottery of São Paulo began on the 1st inst. As yet there seems to be no definite conclusion as to how the money will be expended.

—The *Diário do Gram-Pará* relates that a party of slave-hunters were attacked on the Rio Lario, near early in December last by a band of Murat Indians, and eight of them were killed.

—It is announced from Pará that an employee of the telegraph department is about to leave Fortaleza, Ceará, on a preliminary survey for a government line from that place to Maranhão.

—Dr. Campos Salles, of the São Paulo provincial assembly, addressed a *requerimento* to the government of that province on the 27th ult., asking if the law of April 17, 1880, providing for the abolition of the additional tax of 3 reis per kilo, imposed by the Paulista railway company, had been abolished.

—Landslides are reported from all parts of the provinces of Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo. Many persons have lost their lives through them, and also through sudden inundations. All the hill-side plantations have suffered severely, in many cases being wholly destroyed.

—A slave on the plantation of Sr. João Werneck, S. José do Rio Preto, was hitten in the right fore arm by a large *surraucó* on the 17th ult. An injection of permanganate of potassa was made about one hour afterwards. The arm was badly swollen and gave intense pain for some days, but was entirely well on the sixth day.

—The customs receipts at Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, during the fiscal year 1880-81 amounted to 2,131,353\$802, against 2,116,517\$806 in 1879-80—an increase of 14,835\$996. For the first half of 1881-82 the receipts were 894,611\$489, a decrease of 296,789\$862 from the last half of 1880-81, which amounted to 1,191,400\$551.

—An attack was made upon some maskers in Pernambuco on the night of the 21st ult., by a drunken officer and some soldiers on the grounds that their license to be in the streets was false and the editor of *O Tempo*. The officer used his sword, with the result of wounding some of the persons attacked.

—The proprietor of the *Papetaria*, of Mació, was attacked in his office on the 17th ult., by a man named Costa Barros who felt himself aggrieved by something published in that sheet. After using a club on the editor, and shooting him with a revolver, the aggressor quietly took himself away. The unhappy editor is now in the hands of the surgeons, who are trying to extract the ball.

—In the distribution of premiums and the closing up of the Porto Alegre exhibition there seems to have been a great deal of trouble. Ten thousand tickets for the disposal of exhibits by lottery were sold. The distribution began on the 22nd ult. when the people became irritated and smashed the windows. On the 23rd the conflict continued, the Germans defending the exposition with arms. Several attempts to fire the building were frustrated, but in the evening the mob was successful and the building was burned to the ground, with all its contents.

—The *Americano* of Parahyba do Sul, relates that the Rio Parahyba began to rise rapidly at 10 a.m. on the 23rd ult. At 9 p.m. the water began to invade Rua do Imperador, and then the other streets were soon inundated. At 1 a.m. on the 24th the water was up to the windows of the houses in the lower parts of the town. One life was lost on the 24th. The water continued to rise until 6 a.m. on the 25th, when it began to fall rapidly, and in twenty-four hours the river was down within its natural banks. The losses to stores, dwellings, furniture, etc., is said to be very large. This inundation is reported to be the largest ever experienced at that place.

—A gentleman in Campinas, São Paulo, named Francisco de Sampaio Barros, has just released an African from illegal slavery on the ground that he was introduced into Brazil since the anti-slave trade treaty of 1831. The slave was 44 years of age. This is an act of justice which does infinite honor to Mr. Sampaio Barros, and is worthy of all praise.

—The *Diário do Gram-Pará* of the 11th ult., reports the return of Dr. Ladislao Netto from Marajó with a large number of vases, found in the island of Pacoval. The remainder of his party remained on the island of Marajó. The illustrious director discovered that Pacoval was formerly a peninsula, but as yet he has not succeeded in capturing an *Atzec*. After resting and refreshing himself for a few days in Pará, he intends to start again for the interior, this time for the frontier of Maranhão.

—In a speech before the São Paulo provincial assembly on the 27th ult., on the question of high tariffs, and freight rates as influencing production, Dr. Campos Salles gave the following statistical results of cotton production in that province, from 1862-63 to the close of last year:

years	bales of 50 kilos.
1862-63	29
1863-64	350
1864-65	2,664
1865-66	57,973
1866-67	66,868
1867-68	163,719
1868-69	143,525
1869-70	122,844
1870-71	109,513
1871-72	204,092
1872-73	185,725
1873-74	185,665
1874-75	122,543
1875-76	78,500
1876-77	39,293
1877-78	10,937
1878-79	21,801
1879-80	11,383
1880-81	19,407
1881 to Dec. 31	17,811

THE CEYLON COFFEE CROP.

In reply to an inquiry as to the crop estimate for the year 1881-82, the editor of the *Ceylon Observer*, under date of 7th January, gives the following returns and estimates:

"In January, 1881, our estimate of the then current crop, or rather export, fell as low as 'three-fifths of the total shipped in season 1879-80,' which was 669,614 cwt. In other words, we estimated for 1880-81 a possible minimum export of 400,000 cwt., although we hoped 450,000 would be made up, and even exceeded. The actual result on the 30th September, 1881, was a total export for the season of 453,758 cwt.

For the current season it is very difficult to make an approximate estimate, so great has been the discrepancy between the reports of different authorities. In most districts on the Kandy side, estate estimates are being fully realized, but the Uva spring crop is to be a poor one. About a month ago we took a note of four different estimates of the season's return—chiefly by visiting agents—which ran as follows: 450,000 cwt.; 550,000 to 580,000 cwt.; 600,000 cwt.; and 650,000 cwt. Up to the 5th inst., we have only shipped 118,689 against 146,971 cwt., 165,926 and 209,216 cwt. up to the same date of previous seasons. But the present crop is admittedly a very late one, and in 1879 we shipped 600,000 cwt. for the nine months from January to September. Our inclination is to adhere to 600,000 cwt. as the safest present estimate for the total export of coffee from Ceylon during season 1881-82."

The increase in the custom returns of Canada for December over a similar period of 1880 is \$88,695 93. The excise shows a decrease of \$5,065 35. The following is a statement showing the custom and excise returns for the first six months of the fiscal year of 1881-82, compared with the first six months of 1880-81: Customs, July to December, 1880, \$8,742,047 73; July to December, 1881, \$10,362,088 92; increase for 1881, \$1,620,041 19; excise, July to December, 1880, \$2,829,562 51; do, 1881, \$3,073,275 45; increase, \$243,712 94; total increase of customs and excise, \$1,763,754 13.

DURING the twelve months ending Dec. 31, the number of immigrants who arrived in Toronto, Canada, was 14,597. Of these 3,928 were English, 2,649 Irish, 1,441 Scotch, 3,444 German, 3,193 Scandinavian, besides 32 from other countries. Over 6,300 passed through to the United States, 610 to Manitoba and 7,779 remained in Ontario. About 60.1 per cent were males, 16.1 per cent females and 23.5 children. The arrivals for the same period last year were 15,898. The greatest number of arrivals this year was in the month of May, being 4,537, and the least number in January, there being only 100 during that month.

RAILROAD NOTES

—The government has appointed at Dr. Pedro Guilherme Paes Leme as a member of the commission charged with a revision of the Dom Pedro II railway tariffs.

—The formal inauguration of traffic over the 3rd and 4th sections of the "Recife ao Limoeiro" railway, Pernambuco, took place on the 20th ult. This completes communication between Limoeiro and Pernambuco, a distance of 83 kilometers.

—The repairs on the São Paulo railway, occasioned by land slides on the third plane between Santos and São Paulo, are estimated to cost 100,000\$. The line was reopened to traffic on the 2nd inst., it having been interrupted since the 23rd ult.

—It is stated that the surveys for the Corcovado inclined railway are nearly completed. The total length of the road from Rua do Cosme Velho, Laranjeiras, to the summit will be about 3,600 meters. The running time is estimated at 21 minutes.

—London contains fourteen strictly terminal railway stations, from which not fewer than 2,202 trains depart daily, and nearly 1,600 of these leave between the hours of 10 a. m. and 10 p. m. The largest number of departures from a single terminus is 320, after which come two stations with 312 and 295, respectively. These figures are exclusive of the immense system supplying the city with local transit.

—Locomotives on the American system are now being constructed in England on local orders. The designs and instructions are by Mr. James Clegg, Westminister, and are on the true type as represented in the Baldwin "America," "Mogul" and "Consolidation" classes, with some slight modifications in the arrangement of the compensating levers.

—The total receipts of the Mogiana railway of São Paulo during the last half year amounted to 607,623\$104, and the expenditures to 339,122\$699. The amount of 30,600\$ was carried to the reserve fund, and 35,608\$202 were paid to the province of São Paulo on account of advanced interest. The net receipts were therefore 268,690\$203 from which a dividend of 10\$500 per share was declared. At the meeting of shareholders on the 26th ult. Mr. Gustavo Adolpho e Castro was elected president for the ensuing year.

—The net receipts of the Paulista railway during the last half year amounted to 1,084,762\$605, which afford a dividend surplus of 650,170\$ after deducting the quota due the province on advanced interest account, the amount set apart for the reserve fund and the additional tax. The dividend declared is 10\$800 per share, or 10.8 per cent. The company's reserve fund now amounts to 422,007\$490. The amount paid into the provincial treasury on account of guaranteed interest was 130,807\$473. The road now has a total extension of 243 kilometers, and possesses 15 locomotives, 30 passenger cars and 253 freight cars. Of the latter 50 more are now constructing.

—We extract from the *Correio Paulistano* the following table of amounts paid in the several São Paulo railway companies on account of provincial interest guarantees:

Luana company up to 1879-80	1,045,222\$055
do in 1880-81	133,659 846
Forcelândia company up to 1879-80	2,142,818 950
do in 1880-81	490,000 000
Paulista company up to 1876	401,172 701
Mogiana company	430,098 244
Itapetininga company	94,381 821
S. Paulo and Rio de Janeiro company, before payments were made by the general government	182,612 165
	4,019,336 569

The restitutions have been as follows:

By the Paulista company	270,275\$816
By the Mogiana "	48,286 072
	318,561 891

This leaves the province a creditor to the rail-ways of 4,600,775\$378, not including the sum of 3,047,128\$480 advanced to the São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro company by the general government to which the province is responsible for that amount. There are some errors in the figures above given, but as we have not the data at hand to correct them, we give them as they appear in the *Correio*.

The weather has set in fair all over the country according to to-day's telegraphic report, and so far as the coffee districts are concerned the change could not come more opportunely. The rain of the past three months has been most beneficial; but high, as well as low districts now require dry weather to "harden" the wood preparatory to blossom. Indeed, in the low districts there was risk if wet weather continued longer of blossom being lost: some in spike going into "brush"; but we have no doubt now, early and good blossoms will be seen in the low as well as high districts if the dry weather continues. So far everything is most favorable for a really good season throughout the Ceylon coffee districts.—*Ceylon Observer*, January 10.

LOCAL NOTES

—There was a balance of 99,779\$934 in the municipal treasury on the 1st inst.

—The government remits the export duty on the coffee samples recently sent abroad for exhibition.

—The Continental Exposition at Buenos Aires has been again postponed—this time in the 15th inst.

—The government has appointed Dr. Ammin Augusto Monteiro de Barros to the inspectorship of public works in this city.

—The new Brazilian minister to the United States, Counselor Lopes Netto, leaves to-morrow for Europe, en route for the United States.

—Several streets in this city were inundated during the late heavy rains. There were also many serious landslides, all of which caused great damage to property.

—The new slaughter house was inaugurated on the 22nd ult. The engineer says it was caused by insufficient drainage. The beef has been exceptionally good ever since.

—Decree 849, of the 11th ult., grants a ten years privilege to Henrique Brinhat for an apparatus of his invention for detecting the escape of gas. It can not be applied to gas hills, however.

—The Senate has finally passed the bill exempting from import duties the material for the new library building of the Gabinete Portugueza da Leitura, and an imperial decree of the 18th ult. gives effect to the act.

—The super-eminent aerial navigator, Julius Cesar, who never yet has made a voyage, proposes to apply his invention to submarine navigation also. The motive power will probably be supplied by Mr. Keely of Philadelphia.

—In view of the interruption on the Dom Pedro II line there has been no mail communication with the interior since the 23rd ult. We beg to call the attention of the postoffice authorities to the necessity of making some effort to remedy this fault.

—A murder occurred in the Irajá parish, near this city, on the 26th ult., a man named Francisco being assassinated by João Nova Leite with a bulldog and pistol shot. The assassin was captured and pleads self-defence. The real cause, however, was Leite's attentions to Francisco's mistress.

—The minister of agriculture has placed 300\$ at the disposal of the fiscal engineer (of the D. Theresia Christina railway, Santa Catharina, for the acquisition and shipment of specimens for the projected anthropological exposition in the national museum of this city.

—The Associação Industrial has transmitted 671 packages for the Brazilian exhibit at Buenos Ayres. Should the eminent Dr. Pereira Regis Filho, one of the directors of the Associação, decide to exhibit his diplomas and certificates of membership from foreign societies, the exhibit will be very largely increased.

—The Messageries Maritimes company of this city were fortunate enough to recover 367,400\$ of the 380,000\$ made away with by their employee, Daumas Felix, who was apprehended in quarantine at Montevideo. The company is to be congratulated on its good fortune; and also the Uruguayan government on the circumstance that its senseless quarantine has at last been the occasion of one goal result.

—There seems to be some differences between President Nogue and Alderman Malvino, of the municipal council. The latter, who represents the *corne vecca* interest, wants to know something about the new slaughter house. The latter charges that instead of leaving a surplus the moving of the slaughter house left a deficit of 9,000\$, which was covered by the diversion of money from other appropriations.

—By an official act of the 18th ult. the provincial government of Rio de Janeiro announces modifications in the authorization for two grand lotteries of 5,000,000\$ each to be drawn within the current year. The modification provides that each lottery shall be divided into five drawings of 1,000,000\$ each, or ten drawings for the year. The benefits are to be divided between schools, churches, charitable institutions and the government.

—In view of the resignation of some of the officers of the Botanical Garden Rail Road Company, resident in the United States, and of the approval by the government of the removal of that company's seat to this city, a new election of officers has recently been held for the unexpired period of the present year, ending on the 15th inst. The election resulted as follows: Richard Curtis Shannon, president; Conde de S. Salvador de Matosinhos, vice-president; Pedro Grace, secretary; William Finnie Kemp treasurer; Visconde de Figueiredo, Alexandre de Castro and C. Hayne, consulting directors.

—Imperial decree N. 8438, of the 18th ult., approves the transference of the Botanical Garden Rail Road Company from New York to this city.

—Five dwellings were destroyed by a landslide on Morro da Providencia, in this city, on the 26th ult. Fortunately, however, their inmates escaped.

—The minister of finance has approved the act of the president of São Paulo in opening a special credit of 20,000\$ for relief of immigrants.

—The late heavy rains caused, considerable damage in the Santa Cruz temple of slaughter. *Providence* and Lent, however, saved this city from any appreciable scarcity in the supply of meat.

—An imperial decree of the 18th ult., grants a six months extension to a privilege of Moreira Irado & Co. for the organization of a company to construct a central usine at Japaratuba, Sergipe, and reduces the interest guarantee from 7 to 6 per cent.

—We are informed that when the runaway clerk of the Messageries Maritimes company was captured at the River, the entire amount of the money stolen was found in his possession, except 2,200\$. When the money arrived here, however, there was a deficit of 12,600\$, which shows that there were sticky fingers among those who subsequently handled the cash.

—Several localities in this city suffered severely during the heavy rains of the 21st to the 24th ult. A large district in São Christóvão was submerged, the water driving the people from their houses. In Laranjeiras, Rio Comprido, Catilão Nova, Engenho Velho, and other places, the streets were filled with water and many dwellings were invaded.

—The minister of marine asks for a special credit of 300,000\$ for the lighthouse service in 1882-83, in addition to the 150,000\$ voted by the last legislature. If the government will enforce the regular and efficient management of these lighthouses, the money will be well spent. The lighthouse service along the coast of Brazil is notoriously defective, and is a source of serious complaint.

—The best filter yet used by Mr. Ellison for the carbonized arch of his incandescent light is one found by Mr. John C. Branner in Brazil. The plant furnishing this filter is to be found all through the Amazon valley, and the filter itself is of exceptional purity, length and toughness. Mr. Ellison is delighted with it, and is naturally desirous of securing a permanent supply of it. The difficulty of securing trustworthy laborers for gathering it, the local restrictions, and the certainty that a heavy export duty will at once be imposed upon it, has led to some hesitation in the matter of sending for it. A lantern filter was found in Japan which, though inferior to the Brazilian filter, is easily procured, is now being used, and will continue to be used until the question of expense in securing the Amazon filter is settled. Mr. Branner is now engaged in preparing a report of his year's exploration in Brazil.

THE UNION GENERALE IN 1880 AND 1881.

In November, 1880, the capital of the Union Generale was increased from 2,000,000 to 4,000,000 by an issue of 100,000 new shares of 20 each, exclusively reserved to the holders of the existing shares. The new shares were issued at 27 each, the premium of 7 per share being carried to the reserve fund, which was thus increased to the important extent of 700,000. In 1880 the deposits also increased to the extent of 1,320,000. The Union Generale assisted in the same year in the establishment of the Austrian District Bank, the Vienna Bank-verein, the Hungarian District Bank, the Italian Water Company, the Asturias, Galicia, and Leon Railway Company, &c. The profits of 1880 were returned at 538,000, and the administration carried 200,000 to the reserve, and paid a dividend of 1 7/8 per share in addition to 5 per cent. upon the paid-up capital. In November, 1881, the Union Generale further decided to carry its capital from 4,000,000 to 5,000,000, the profits for the year being estimated at 1,440,000. It was determined that 100,000 new shares of 20 each share be issued at 23 3/4 each, that amount to be paid up at once. Scarcely three months have elapsed since this decision was arrived at, and now ruin has overtaken the concern; and all its arrangements for the issue of its 100,000 new shares have perforce been declared null and void.—*Liverpool Journal of Commerce.*

ACCORDING to the last census there are 11,418 new papers and periodicals published in the United States, of which 982 are published daily, 8,725 weekly, and the remainder at less frequent intervals. The periodicals are run by an editorial staff of 16,480 persons, and employ 59,799 males and 3,855 females in other subordinate capacities. The annual pay roll for these periodicals is estimated to be 28,571,336.38. Their aggregate circulation per issue is 31,177,924 copies, and per annum 2,077,650,075 copies, of which 1,155,334,446 were ladies. The aggregate sum paid for subscriptions in one year is 28,000,000. The dailies use 27,508,777 pounds of paper per issue, and the weeklies and others 2,908,681.25 pounds. The total consumption of paper during the census year was 178,165,951 pounds.

From the Buenos Aires Herald, February 14.

PROFESSOR CREVAUX'S EXPEDITION.

We give a detailed account of M. Crevaux's expedition into the interior and of the annoyances he has sustained.

On the 17th ult. the members of the expedition were travelling towards the north, and arrived at Tumbaya about 8.50 p. m.

The only light to be seen in the village was that at the store of a man called Soto, to which the travellers directed their steps in search of hospitality. This was, at first, denied them, but at the sight of a handful of gold napoleons, and of a revolver pointed at his head, the storekeeper agreed to give them a night's lodging. After a hearty meal, which was paid for with prodigality, they retired in a room which had been prepared for them.

About midnight, they were aroused from their sleep by knocks at their door and by the report of three or four shots, by one of which a French sailor was wounded. At last the door was burst open, and without being allowed time to dress, they were carried off to the public gaol, from which they were released upon payment of 25 bolivianos and leaving in possession of the assailants a parcel containing four Remingtons, four revolvers, four knives and an astronomical telescope, which was probably mistaken for some fire-arm.

After this adventure they got to Hamahuani, where they were again arrested and incarcerated by an order of the criminal judge of Jujuj, Don Mathias Ayala, (the uncle of Soto), the order stating that they were to have iron put on their legs and to be taken to the gaol at Jujuj. Through the intervention of Dr. Páuli and Mr. Benmiller they got Dr. Ayala to revoke his order and to be satisfied with a fine of one hundred bolivianos, which his nephew Soto pocketed.

The truth is that the scientific commission, of which Dr. Crevaux is the head, which has been continuously treated by all the officials of the nearer provinces, is receiving the most shameful treatment from those of the upper provinces.

FAILURES IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Returns of failures in the United Kingdom during the past year make a very favorable comparison with that of the year preceding. The improvement appears to have chiefly been in the wholesale branches of trade, and among houses of minor standing. In the retail trade the improvement was not so marked, partly, it was supposed, because of the extending of the co-operative movement, and the fact of many large retail establishments having adopted a similar system, to the detriment of small concerns. The record shows a steady improvement during the last four years, as follows:

	No. of failures.	wholesale.	retail.
In the year 1877.....	11,022	2,172	8,850
1878.....	15,059	2,643	12,416
1879.....	16,637	2,540	14,097
1880.....	13,147	1,478	11,669
1881.....	12,005	1,225	10,780

BRITISH REVENUE IN 1881.

The gross revenue of the United Kingdom during the years ending December 31, 1881 and 1880 was derived from the following sources:

	Year ended Dec 31, 1881.	Year ended Dec 31, 1880.	Increase.
Customs.....	£19,254,000	£19,068,000	£186,000
Excise.....	27,252,000	26,770,000	482,000
Stamps.....	12,747,000	11,955,000	792,000
Land tax and duty.....	7,745,000	7,719,000	26,000
Post and telegraph tax.....	11,068,000	9,485,000	1,583,000
Post office.....	6,675,000	6,570,000	105,000
Telegraph service.....	1,670,000	1,570,000	100,000
Crown lands.....	370,000	399,000	29,000
Lottery on advances.....	1,212,000	1,326,919	114,919
Miscellaneous.....	3,959,110	4,206,471	247,361
Totals.....	£86,682,170	£83,292,890	£3,389,280

This exhibits a large gain in property and income tax and also in excise dues. From the Post Office and the sale of stamps there was a large revenue, and a fair ratio of increase from the telegraph service, while the customs did not show much change. The net gain was £3,391,789 or 4 per cent.

The position of our planting enterprise *PROSA* is certainly most satisfactory and encouraging than it was twelve months ago. It is acknowledged on all hands, that a great improvement has taken place during the past four months in the appearance of our coffee fields, notwithstanding that estimates of crop have as a rule been exceeded and in almost all cases fully realized, while strict economy has been maintained. For the first time for six years, a season of the good old normal type, with rain falling more or less steadily all through crop from October to December, has been experienced, and the trees are now in splendid condition for blossom. Fine weather may now be anticipated from the present appearances in Colombo, and certainly the New Year breaks with much to raise the hopes of the coffee estate proprietor in the central province.—*Ceylon Observer*, January 9.

From the Buenos Aires Standard, February 19.

BRAZIL AND THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

The readiness of our imperial neighbor to assist at our great Continental Exhibition, and the liberality of the government in assisting exhibitors, is one of the most interesting episodes of the big show. The circumstance possesses not only a local but a national interest. It proves the friendly feelings entertained by the Emperor and the Brazilians on this country, and the desire to evince this friendship in a practical manner. Brazil, under the guidance of its present wise and honest ruler, has acquired the enviable reputation of being one of the most just and upright of nations. Its good faith is proverbial in Europe, so that when with such really good-will she offers to take such an active part in our industrial tournament, we can entertain no doubt of the hearty expression of amity which such a spontaneous act indicates. Should we have the pleasure of seeing the Emperor himself in the new capital of the Argentine Republic, it would undoubtedly prove an opportunity, that all would gladly avail themselves of, to show that distinguished personage how much we respect him as a monarch and as a man. To him we doubtless owe our present international harmony. He is the first ruler in Brazil that has thoroughly understood the value of the friendship of this republic, and the importance of having for a neighbor a nation which, like Brazil, is making itself great and powerful, not by aggressions and by arms, but the civilization of industry and commerce.

It is not many years ago when a very strong feeling of dislike had risen up between the two nations. About the time of the mission of Tejedor, and for some time after, our political and social relations with the neighboring empire were, if not critical, at all events unfriendly. As long as our questions with Chili remained open and threatened a rupture with that country, a large number of people in this country tried to get up an alarm by throwing doubts on the loyalty of Brazil. We are proud to say that the *Standard* invariably combated these unfounded attacks, and we ever expressed our confidence in the good faith and sincerity of the government of Rio Janeiro. We never could perceive any serious imputation of a desire on the part of Brazil to see the two republics precipitated into a war, and much less any intention of alliance with Chili. Had a war unfortunately been brought about, Don Pedro II would have remained strictly neutral, as would have been his duty, and duty in that wise prince appears to be an instinct, not a calculation.

It is time that the silly antagonisms between republicans and monarchists, in a political sense, should cease. We have seen, we witness it still, that the principles of limited monarchy have created a great and flourishing state, even when surrounded by republics. If republicans insist on it we will change the wording of the last sentence and say that a flourishing state has been created under a monarchical government and has achieved, in fact, a much higher importance as a nation than either of the two republics in S. America worthy of being called nations.

The only little speck in the horizon of Brazil and the Argentine Republic, and that speck is by no means as large as the sailors' proverbial cloud 'as large as a man's hand,' that might at some future day destroy or imperil the peace, harmony and friendship which ought to exist between the two nations, is that wretchedly-governed nest of political hornets, called the republic of Uruguay. Of course it is natural that Brazil should covet Monte video and the Banda Oriental, for many palpable reasons, as Russia covets a port on the Arabian sea, and as Austria covets the port of Salonica. As long, however, as the Uruguayan republic keeps up the semblance of nationality, Brazil will respect her independence. But if, as is most probable, the anarchy in that miserable but beautiful country becomes unbearable to its neighbors, something will have to be done, and we may then fear that the Argentine Republic and Brazil will become rivals in the probable distribution of the spoils.

NET RESULT OF THE ATLANTA EXPOSITION.

"The cost of the exposition," says the Atlanta Constitution, "was \$250,000 of which \$150,000, in round figures, was put in buildings, and improvements, and the balance paid out for running expenses, printing, etc.; the receipts were from \$220,000 to \$250,000 of which \$115,000 came from stock, \$115,000 from privileges, \$15,000 from entry fees, \$90,000 from gate receipts and \$5,000 from miscellaneous resources. Add to these receipts whatever the buildings will bring, and we will have about the total receipts of the International Cotton Exposition. Putting the gate receipts at \$100,000, which is a fair estimate on the figures, and we see that we have about 250,000 visitors at the exposition. Outside of these three points, the exposition did a vast amount of good in the direction of improved agriculture throughout the South. The amount of sales made of improved machinery was simply marvellous. The exhibitors all agree that they never saw a better selling exposition. There is scarcely a neighborhood in the southern States into which an improved stump-puller, post-hole horer, plow, cotton-planter, manure-distributor, salfy plow, cultivator or harrow has not gone, and which when introduced will induce the purchase of others."

Marh 2 —The rates of the banks continued as yesterday but

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" 26	Avon	Montevideo and Buenos Ayres
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fer, the designations of number and volume were continued
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